

NOMINATION FOR
Southern Region International Service Award
Epsilon Sigma Phi, Alpha Zeta Chapter – Texas



Nominee's Name: Dan James
Title: Professor & Extension Specialist Emeritus
Address: 8832 CR 858
City, State Zip: McKinney TX 75071
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Position and Dates of Extension Employment (If applicable):

Executive Director, Texas Global Education and Cultural Exchange, 2005 - Present
International Program Coordinator, Texas Cooperative Extension, 2004 - 2005
Extension 4-H Youth Development Specialist, Texas Cooperative Extension, 1972-2004
County Extension Agent, Blackford County, Indiana, 1969-1972
County Extension Agent, Sullivan County, Indiana, 1966-1969

Education: Master of Arts, Community Education Admin., Central Michigan University, 1972
Bachelor of Science, Animal Science, Purdue University, 1966

Outstanding Professional Accomplishments:

International 4-H Youth Exchange (USA) Board of Directors – 2007
Coordinator for American Farm School Exchange in Greece. – 2002 - Present
State Coordinator for Japanese Exchange Program – 1990 - Present
Program Leader - Texas International 4-H Youth Exchange – 1975 – 2005
Epsilon Sigma Phi State Excellence Award - 2004
New Faculty Orientation Committee - 2001-2004
U.S. International Program Committee Board of Directors – 1998 – 2002
Coordinator for Professional Development Study Tour in Japan for Faculty – 2000 - 2002
Air Force American Spirit Award - NAE4-HA, 2001
National High School Japanese Exchange Program Coordinator – 1998 – 2000
National Global Education Design Team – 1999
Co - Chairman – Creation of Texas 4-H Friends and Alumni Association, 1997
Texas Coordinator for German Land Jugend Exchange – 1989 - 1995
Director - Six Flags Over Texas Resource Development Project – 1990 -1995
Director - 4-H “Hermanandonos” Mexico Linkage Project – 1991 - 1994
Texas Agricultural Extension Service Superior Service Award, 1993
National Association of Extension 4-H Agents, 25 Year Award - 1991
National Association of Extension 4-H Agents Distinguished Service Award, 1985
Texas Association of Extension 4-H Agents Distinguished Service Award, 1985
National Association of Extension 4-H Agents, Conference Coordinator, 1985
Mott Foundation Graduate Fellowship, 1971-72
Indiana Association of Extension 4-H Agents, President, 1970
International 4-H Youth Exchange - Australia, 1964-65

Outstanding Programmatic Accomplishments:

Texas International 4-H Program

For over 30 years Dan served as the Texas International 4-H Program Coordinator. During his career, 131 youth from Texas participated in the International Foreign Youth Exchange (IFYE) program. These delegates lived with host families in 35 different countries. Over 800 families in Texas hosted IFYE delegates from other countries. These exchanges provided the opportunity for increased understanding and appreciation of cultural differences.

Greece Exchange Program

Since 2002, Dan has coordinated the American Farm School Program with Greece. The program allows Texas delegates the opportunity to learn about agricultural production around Athens. Also, youth and chaperones from Greece come to study agricultural production in Texas. This exchange has been beneficial to the 45 delegates that have participated.

Japanese Exchange Program

In the last 17 years, 500 Texas families hosted Japanese delegates and chaperones in their homes and they had the opportunity of learning about cultural differences. In the same time period more than 40 Texas delegates were selected and lived with host families in Japan. From 1998 until 2002 Dan served on the Board of Directors of the U.S. International Program Committee. This group oversees the program that involved over 1200 Japanese delegates to the United States and 250 delegates from the United States to Japan. Also, Dan served as Coordinator of the National High School Exchange Program that was responsible for the orientation and evaluation of some 100 high school students from Japan who spent one year attending high school in the United States. In 2001, due to the connections developed by Dan through these exchange programs, he was able to plan and develop an international study tour for Extension Professionals from Texas, Pennsylvania, and Illinois.

In 2006, after retiring from Extension, Dan established the Texas Global Education and Cultural Exchange and became the organizations Executive Director. This non-profit organization promotes global education through cultural exchange programs. The first group hosted by this organization was 25 Japanese delegates.

Other Exchange Programs

From 1985 until 2005, Dan worked with delegations from China, Egypt, Germany, Guatemala, Mexico, Poland, South Africa, Uganda, and Zambia to develop youth educational programs. One of the most recognized programs is "Hermanandonos", a 4-H Mexico Linkage Project which received funding from the Kellogg Foundation.

Support Statement:

When you discuss International programs in Texas one of the first programs mentioned is the youth Extension program coordinated by Dan James. He has help youth in their understanding of cultural diversities in 12 countries. Because of his dedication, the lives of youth around the world have been changed for the better. Dan is certainly deserving of this recognition.